(1) The wild buffalo is included in Schedule I of the Wild life (Protection) Act, 1972, thus giving the species maximum possible protection under the law.

(2) The present habitats of the wild buffalo in India are included in the protected area network comprising national parks and sanctuaries, including tiger reserves. The protected areas containing wild buffaloes are being financially assisted under the Centrally sponsored schemes "Assistance for the development of sanctuaries and national parks", "Project Tiger", and "Conservation of rhinos in Assam", for their development.

(3) With a view mainly to avoid possible inter-breeding between the wild buffaloes and the domestic stock, livestock grazing in all the protected areas in Assam containing wild buffaloes has been banned. Domestic cattle living around the protected areas of Assam is inoculated against contagious diseases.

(4) The Government of India has sponsored survey and research to establish the status of the wild buffalo and to identify genetically pure populations of the species to enable measures to be taken for their conservation.

[*Translation*]

Educationally Backward District of Gujarat

3439. SHRI RATILAL VARMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the educationally backward districts of Gujarat; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to eliminate their educational backwardness?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) Educationally backward districts having less than national average rate of literacy in the State of Gujarat as per 1981 Census, are Kachchh, Banas Kantha, Panch Mahals and The Dangs.

(b) There are a number of programmes under implementation in the areas of Elementary Education and Adult Education. Further under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes such as Operation Blackward, Teacher Education, Non-Formal Education and Adult Education Programmes, financial assistance is provided to the State Governments for educational development . The State Government / U.T. Administrations have been advised to concentrate on backward districts.

Status of Central University to Kunwar Singh University

3440. SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposed to grant Central University status to Kunwar Singh University in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c). As a matter of policy, Central Government have considered it

inadvisable to convert State Universities as Central Universities. Central Government is, therefore, not considering any proposal to convert any University in Bihar into a Central University.

[*English*]

North Zone Centre of SAI at Lucknow

3441. SHRI RAJENDERA AGNIHOTRI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up North Zone Centre of the Sports Authority of India at Lucknow;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) the time by which the Centre is likely to be established?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND THE DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The decision of the Governing body was taken in principle on 27-6-1989 to locate the Central Zone Regional Centre at Lucknow, subject to funds being made available under the 8th Five Year Plan.

Eradication of Illiteracy

3442. DR. SUDHIR RAY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of budgetary allocation for the eradication of illiteracy during 1991-92, State-wise;

(b) the reasons for inadequate allocation for total literacy camaign;

(c) whether teachers, students have been involved in the total literacy campaign and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) In the central sector State-wise allocations are not made for literacy programmes. The grants are released to various state Governments/UT Administrations on the basis of their requirements. However, a statement showing State-wise the amount of grants released to the State Govts. /UT Administrations and other organisations for adult literacy programmes during 1991-92 is enclosed.

(b) Out of a total allocation of Rs. 120.00 crores made for adult education during 1991-92 an amount of Rs. 53.75 crores has been earmarked for Total Literacy Campaigns which is considered adequate for meeting the expenditure on such campaigns during the year.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

STATEMENT

S.No.	*Names of State/UT*	*Amount (in lakhs)*
1.	Andhra Pradesh	733.04
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	8.43